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<p>(21) International Application Number: <b>PCT/US99/08086</b></p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: <b>13 April 1999 (13.04.99)</b></p> <p>(30) Priority Data: 60/081,734 14 April 1998 (14.04.98) US</p> <p>(71) Applicant (<i>for all designated States except US</i>): THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA [US/US]; 12th floor, 1111 Franklin Street, Oakland, CA 94607-5200 (US).</p> <p>(72) Inventors; and</p> <p>(75) Inventors/Applicants (<i>for US only</i>): VALE, Ronald, D. [US/US]; 1430 15th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122 (US). HARTMAN, James, J. [US/US]; 3 Gaiser Court, San Francisco, CA 94110 (US).</p> <p>(74) Agents: HUNTER, Tom et al.; Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP, 8th floor, Two Embarcadero Center, San Francisco, CA 94111-3834 (US).</p>			
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<p>(54) Title: ASSAYS FOR THE DETECTION OF MICROTUBULE DEPOLYMERIZATION INHIBITORS</p> <p>(57) Abstract</p> <p>This invention provides methods for the screening and identification of agents having potent effects on the progression of the cell cycle. In one embodiment, the methods involve contacting a polymerized microtubule with a microtubule severing protein or a microtubule depolymerizing protein in the presence of an ATP or a GTP and a test agent; and (ii) detecting the formation of tubulin monomers, dimers or oligomers. The p60 subunit of katanin provides a particularly preferred microtubule severing protein possessing both ATPase and microtubule severing activities.</p>			

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